



# ART

## Arte Latino offers center for Latino art community

**T**HE DREAM OF A center for Latino arts and culture in our area is finally in the process of being realized, thanks to the efforts of an enthusiastic and dedicated band of volunteers.

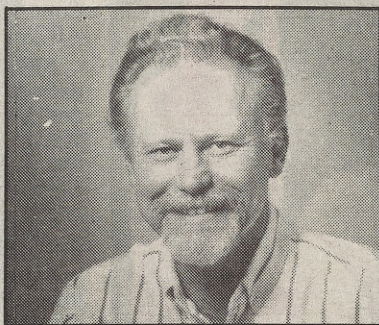
Arte Latino Gallery and Cultural Center, a newly incorporated non-profit organization, has opened a gallery/giftshop and office at the former site of Coco Studios in the Santa Cruz Art Center on Center Street.

Director Julie Reynolds Arizmendi says, "It was just last fall when a dozen of us agreed we'd volunteer to make Arte Latino happen. It's been like having an extra full-time job, but when there's so much to show for the effort, it keeps us wanting to do more."

Arte Latino has already been awarded several grants. Memberships, donations and volunteers come in almost everyday according to Arizmendi. "It reminds us that there are a great many people in the community who believe there's a real need for Arte Latino Gallery," she says.

Arte Latino eventually wants to find a larger space in the new downtown. Until then they are sponsoring events and exhibitions all over the County — including performances by Teatro Campesino at UC Santa Cruz and an exhibit at Watsonville City Hall marking the beginning of a cultural clash: the "Quincentennial" or 500th anniversary of the arrival of Europeans in the Americas.

At their gallery in the Art Center through May 10, Arte Latino is featuring "Cuentos de Mujeres (Women's Stories)." Lucia Grossberger, the exhibit coordinator, explains that the title has a double meaning, "It also means women



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gathering together and talking among themselves."

The artwork and accompanying "mini stories" do have a quality to them that makes the viewer feel included in an intimate conversation. It features a small but lovely selection of work by five local women artists: Carmen Leon, Anna Price-Oneglia, Silvia Carballo, Grossberger and Arizmendi. A public reception for the artists will be held from 5-7 p.m. tonight.

Sharing the space with "Cuentos de Mujeres" is a delightful collection of handmade gifts and folk art, along with the office of this fledgling community organization.

The next exhibit, starting May 15, is "Arte Del Pueblo," an exploration of Mexican folk art that continues the tradition of arts in the community. This series features an exhibit and demonstration by Oaxacan wood sculptor Florencio Fuentes (who now lives in Santa Cruz), a mask-making workshop by Cruz Zamorron and Ralph Marquez, a film about a family of papier-mache artists from Mexico City and a folkloric dance performance by members of "Esperanza Del Valle."

Arte Latino Gallery is at 1001 Center St. Number 4, Santa Cruz. Hours are noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday and noon to 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday. For more information call 459-6944.

**PAJARO VALLEY ARTS COUNCIL** — "Showers of Flowers" celebrates flower growing in the Pajaro Valley with paintings on silk by popular local artist **Evelyn Jenkins Drew** through June 6. Noon to 4 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday. Milstead House, 37 Sudden St., Watsonville.

• Benefit opening reception with wines, regional delicacies, flowers and jazz. 4-7 p.m. Saturday. \$25 donation goes to Arts Council.

**CABRILLO COLLEGE GALLERY** — "Tina Fuentes, Dibujos y Pinturas de la Desnuda" through May 22. 6500 Soquel Drive, Apts. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday and 7-9 p.m. Monday-Tuesday. 479-6308

• Opening reception 5-7 p.m. tonight. The artist is unable to attend the reception but is presenting a slide lecture 2 p.m. May 7, in room 456, Cabrillo College.

**CABRILLO COLLEGE STAFF LOUNGE** — Memorial exhibit of watercolors by **Ralph Rapattoni**, local architect, engineer, sailor, cartoonist, ceramic artist and watercolorist. Through May 15. Back corner of Library, 6500 Soquel Drive, Apts.

• Reception 4-6 p.m. tonight.

**ZANOTTOS RESTAURANT** — New watercolors by **Linda Lord** and **Sharon Medler** through May 29. 5600 Scotts Valley Drive., Scotts Valley.

• Reception noon-4 p.m. Sunday.

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